

WHEELED WARRIORS

"ESCAPE FROM THE GARDEN"

(#032001)

(SCRIPT)

FILE COPY

Written by:
Haskell Barkin
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FINAL

DIC ENTERPRISES, INC.

"Escape From The Garden"

FADE IN:

EXT. OVERGROWN COUNTRYSIDE - DAY - CLOSE

What might have once been a stand of high trees is now overgrown with heavy vine-like vegetation that knits trees, shrubs and ground cover into an almost impenetrable mass. We're in the middle of it, in a small clearing with only occasional shafts of light able to make it this far down. The twisted vines are more like tentacles that move as if they are beings. As indeed they are, since this growth is the early stage of the Monster Minds.

O.S. HEAVY BREATHING. OON, running for his life, breaks into the clearing, slashing his way with swings of his lance. But the far end of his lance is still snagged in the vegetation, jerking him to a sudden stop. He turns and wrenches the lance free. The release sends him sprawling onto the ground with a CLANKING of armor. Around his neck like a medallion is a smooth, almost beautiful piece of plant root.

CLOSER - OON

OS POWERFUL ROAR of working engines and varying HIGH-PITCHED WHINE of a saw cutting through tangled underbrush. Oon looks back in the direction he's come. The O.S. SOUND grows LOUDER, and is joined by MORE ENGINES. Oon, more terrified than ever, scrambles away in the other direction. CAMERA PANS toward sounds. The vegetation shudders and cracks away as SAW TROOPER, saw slashing away, ENTERS SHOT TOWARD CAMERA, until his angry scowling face FILLS FRAME.

SAW TROOPER

(furious)

Fan out! Speed up! Get that root
he's got around his neck!

WIDER ANGLE - FAVORING SAW TROOPER

He moves ahead, saw WHINING, leaving a swath of destroyed vegetation. Behind him and to the sides are the four other Monster Mind vehicles.

WIPE TO:

EXT. SMALL TOWN MAIN STREET - DAY

The street, shops, road, cars, everything is overrun by the Monster Minds foliage. Oon runs into the scene and stops.

ON OON

Panting, he looks anxiously behind him. Safe for the moment. He looks off to one side.

OON'S POV - DOWN THE STREET

A man pushes a wheelbarrow down the street, loaded with his possessions. Following him come a man and woman trudging under packs. The eternal refugees. All are gaunt and fearful. Oon runs to them. They stop. He shows the root.

OON

This root is the only thing that
can save us! I've travelled millions
of miles to get it to Jason!

The refugees ignore him and continue on.

ON OON

He runs after them, but trips on his lance and falls flat on his face.

OON

Oh, please. The Monster Minds
are after me!

ON REFUGEES

They stop, frozen in fear. Then, with CRIES OF TERROR they drop their packs, abandon the wheelbarrow, and run off as fast as they can.

ON OON

He slowly starts picking himself up. OS SOUNDS of approaching Monster Minds, ENGINES AND EQUIPMENT. Oon scuttles along the ground like a crab, in rapid motion.

ANOTHER ANGLE - OON

Scuttling ahead, he looks behind him for a moment so he doesn't realize he's heading straight for one of the grotesque-looking Monster Mind flowers. Just as he sees it, a revolting gnarled substance which looks like brain tissue begins to grow from it. Oon CRIES OUT in terror and quickly reverses field.

ANGLE - ONE OF THE SHOPS

The OS SOUND of Saw Trooper reaches a crescendo. The front of the shop CRASHES down as Saw Trooper comes through with saw flailing.

WIPE TO:

EST. SHOT - GILLIAN'S GARDEN - DAY

We see a dome of glowing magical white light that rises from a deep ravine that encircles it. This wall of light is almost opaque from the outside, though it's possible to see suggestions of the lush garden it encloses. This oasis of beauty stands incongruously in a region where everything is taken over by the Monster Mind vines. The vines are even starting to grow up onto the walls of light, as if they found it solid. PUSH IN and:

LAP DISSOLVE TO:

EXT. INSIDE THE GARDEN - DAY

A breathtaking magical place of beauty and life, bathed in a glowing light that seems to come from all around. CAMERA PANS across the vegetation and animals to HOLD ON GILLIAN putting the finishing touches on the vehicle Armed Force, which he is building. He's tightening bolts. In BG are the four other Lightning League vehicles. Nearby is the Mobile Base Station, with construction scaffolding still on it. Jason runs INTO SHOT to him.

JASON

Gillian, the vines are climbing higher onto our wall of light!

ANGLE PAST THEM TO WALL

We have a clearer view through the light wall from inside, than from outside. The vines have sent tendrils up on the outside, dimming the light at that point. Gillian looks to where Jason indicates.

GILLIAN

(unhappy)

It's powered by the sun -- and they're blocking it. It can't survive much longer.

CLOSER - GILLIAN, JASON

Gillian resumes his work on the vehicle.

GILLIAN

Then please hurry with the vehicles!

ON JASON

Standing tall and determined, he looks out toward the wall.

JASON

We have to be ready when father
finally comes to lead us out of
here!

ON GILLIAN, JASON

GILLIAN

We might have to leave before
that, Jason.

JASON

No!

(to the sky))

Flora! Any sign of father?

JASON'S POV - FLORA

High above, FLORA is flying around on BROCK, her pet
flying fish, which is about the size of a porpoise. She
reacts with good humored indignance.

FLORA

Don't you think I'd tell you?

ON FLORA, BROCK

CAMERA FOLLOWS them as Brock swoops and glides through
the air. Flora scans the horizon as Brock WHISTLES &
SQUEAKS in response.

FLORA

All right, I won't be nasty. But
I wish Jason wouldn't treat me
like I was a nerd!

Suddenly Flora senses something. She peers in all
directions.

FLORA

(excited)

Oon! He's coming!

She swoops down to the garden.

ON JASON, GILLIAN

Brock flies down INTO SHOT and lands. Flora runs to
Jason and Gillian.

FLORA

(louder)

Oon's coming! I can feel it!

ON JASON

JASON
(excited)
Then father must be coming, too!
I told you, Gillian!

ON FLORA

FLORA
(concerned)
No. I don't feel Elric coming.

ON JASON AND FLORA

Jason peers off into the distance, hand shielding his eyes.

JASON
(despairingly)
You're wrong, Flora! Oon would
never desert his master! He... he
has to be coming!

WIPE TO:

EXT. WOODS - DAY

Overgrown by Monster Mind plants. CLOSE on Oon, PANNING as he stumbles his way through, more terrified than ever. DISTANT SOUNDS of MONSTER MINDS EQUIPMENT.

ANOTHER ANGLE

Oon runs TOWARD CAMERA as he emerges from the woods into a clear area, with Monster Mind plants growing only on the ground. He stops short at what he sees ahead.

OON
(excited)
Oh! Thank goodness!

OON'S POV

In the mid-distance lies Gillian's garden, its wall of light the only bright place in an otherwise storm-darkened sky.

OON (VO)
That better be where Jason is!

BACK TO SHOT

With renewed effort Oon runs through the low-lying brush.

ANGLE - THE WOODS BEHIND HIM

The Monster Minds vehicles, Saw Trooper in the lead, CRASH through the woods like tanks, levelling trees before them. As Terror Tank accidentally crosses Saw Trooper's path:

SAW TROOPER

We've got him! Out of my way!

Saw Trooper bumps him aside and roars off in pursuit.

PAN - OON

Running for his life. He looks behind him, and CRIES out in panic.

OON POV - SAW TROOPER

Saw Trooper is rapidly closing in, with the others close behind.

WIDE PAN - OON

Oon runs so fast his legs are a blur. Saw Trooper GAINS INTO SHOT behind him. They run through a thickly wooded jungle-like area. Saw Trooper is slowed by the trees and boulders he has to crash through.

CLOSER PAN - OON

He's out of the woods, racing through a scrub area.

OON POV

Oon is rapidly approaching a deep ravine from which the wall of light beams upward. The ravine's jagged edges are set back from the light wall by several yards, so there is a possibility of dropping into it.

PAN - OON

OON

No!!!!!!!

He digs his heels in trying for an emergency stop. But he's going too fast, and skids ahead, his lance horizontal. STOP PAN at the edge of the ravine. Just as he's about to go off the edge, the point of the lance tilts down, catches on the ground, and catapults Oon into the air above the ravine. He holds onto the lance, so it's wrenched free and stays with him.

ON WALL OF LIGHT

Oon arcs high into the air, SCREAMING in fear, and through the wall of light, disappearing inside.

EXT. INSIDE THE GARDEN - DAY

MOVE with Oon as he plummets down. HOLD near the ground as he drops OUT OF FRAME.

ON GILLIAN, JASON, FLORA

Our group looks up at the sound of Oon's OS SCREAM. He drops INTO SHOT, and with the CRASH-CLANG-TINKLE of a thousand tin cans hits the ground at Gillian's feet. A dust cloud rises, through which we see Oon's various parts flying off in all directions. When the cloud settles we see he's scattered about the landscape.

ON JASON, OON'S HEAD

Oon's head rolls along the ground then comes to a rocking stop, visor up. Jason rushes to it.

JASON

(happy to see him)

Oon! Good old Oon, you're here!

OON

(relieved)

Oh, Master Jason, it's wonderful to see you again!

JASON

But where's my father?

ON OON

OON

(eager)

I'll tell you the whole story!
Meanwhile, could you put me back together again, please?

Jason and Flora hurriedly gather the various pieces of Oon and give them to Gillian, who starts reassembling Oon.

EXT. EDGE OF RAVINE - DAY

LOOKING BACK toward the woods. Smashing trees ahead of them, the Monster Minds, led by Saw Trooper, emerge into the low shrub area.

ON SAW TROOPER

He races to the edge of the ravine-light-wall, grinds to a halt, looking left and right. Turns to confront the others.

SAW TROOPER

(insidiously)

Scour the area! If he's not out here, he must be in there!

WIDE - ALL THE MONSTER MINDS

They start shearing, smashing, and crushing the woods.

INSIDE THE GARDEN - DAY

Gillian helps Oon put himself back together, handing Oon his various parts for Oon to slap back in place. Flora and Jason lean in, excited. Oon helps reassemble himself as he speaks.

OON

(babbling, agitated)

It was awful! Oh, where can I begin? Boom, crash, they broke through the walls! But before that your father almost had --

ON OON, GILLIAN

Gillian places a calming hand on Oon's shoulder. Oon becomes silent. With a magical wave of his other arm, Gillian causes Oon's visor to flip up, as Gillian's hand sparkles and there is a tinkling sound.

GILLIAN

Now, Oon, merely think about what has happened...

ON OON - CLOSE

CAMERA PUSHES IN to the emptiness behind Oon's open visor until it FILLS FRAME. At the same time, a picture begins emerging there, like a tv set being turned on. It shows us the following scenes, with Oon's VO:

EST. SHOT - ELRIC'S GARDEN - DAY

PUSH IN to Elric's laboratory. ELRIC, surrounded by various lush plants, works at a computer console. On the monitor we see various plants take shape, alternating with symbolic molecular combinations. Oon stands by, watching.

OON (VO)

My master tried to create a plant
that would end starvation forever.

ON ELRIC, OON

Elric leaves the computer and snips a branch from a
plant. He joins it with a clamp to another branch in a
chemical bath.

OON (VO)

He found the perfect spot for his
experiments in another galaxy.

CAMERA PANS to sky, where four suns are shining.

LAP DISSOLVE TO:

INT. ELRIC'S LAB - DAY

Elric holds up a potted plant with magnificently ripe,
juicy-looking fruit growing in abundance. He holds it
with pure delight, as if it were a religious object. He
excitedly tells Oon that this is it. Oon jumps up and
down in joy. (Other similar plants are on a table.)

OON (VO)

But just as he succeeded --

ANGLE - THE SKY

One of the four suns becomes larger and brighter than the
others, then suddenly explodes, until the frame is pure
light.

INT. ELRIC'S LAB

The lab is bathed in an intense light. The pressure is
so powerful it hurls Elric and Oon to the ground.

CU ONE OF THE PLANTS

Bathed in the intense light, the plant starts changing.
It produces the evil-looking tendrils of the Monster Mind
plant. Nauseating blossoms pop out. The Monster Mind
brain begins emerging. Finally it becomes an early form
of what will soon be the first Saw Boss. (The vegetable
version.)

OON (VO)

Radiation changed his discovery into
plants with evil brains!

WIDE - LAB

The intense light begins fading. All the plants are mutating into Monster Minds (anthropomorphic plant version). They move through the lab, destroying everything in their path. New tendrils start covering every surface.

ON ELRIC AND OON

Elric looks on in helpless horror. Oon, terrified, tugs at Elric's sleeve, trying to get him to go. Tendrils reach toward them. Finally Elric and Oon run out, Oon in the lead.

OON (VO)

He said we had to flee, because
these "Monster Minds" were ruthless!

WIPE TO:

EST. SHOT - MONSTER MIND HEADQUARTERS

An angry sky glowers overhead. The shimmering black-lighted walls of the Monster Mind headquarters (formerly Elric's lab) rise threateningly.

INT. MONSTER MIND HEADQUARTERS

UP ANGLE to Saw Boss (plant form) seated high up on his throne like an organic Darth Vader. We distinguish him from the Saw Trooper by his pulsating, glowing brain.

OON (VO)

Their leader -- they called him
"Saw Boss!" -- took over my
master's laboratory!

DISSOLVE TO:

INT. MONSTER MIND HEADQUARTERS

On the floor now, near the wall of black light. Saw Boss, followed by a Saw Trooper and the four other varieties of Monster Minds (all in plant form) move toward the light.

ON SAW BOSS

He steps into the black light. A gruesome transformation begins, with horrible SOUNDS of WRENCHING METAL. The ugly plant writhes and twists, becoming something still uglier.

REVERSE ANGLE - OUTSIDE THE WALL OF LIGHT

Saw Trooper emerges, twisting and GRINDING into his mechanical vehicle form, his brain still pulsating and glowing.

INSIDE THE WALL

The four other Monster Minds enter the wall and undergo the same transformation.

WIDE - BEHIND THEM

A vast army of Monster Mind duplicates advances toward the wall as the vines grow, out through the dark light, wrenching trees and other vegetation out of the ground as they go. They also begin producing blossoms which produce brains, then more Monster Mind vehicles.

OUTSIDE THE WALL

The Monster Mind vehicles emerge from the wall and ROAR off, led by Saw Boss.

WIPE TO:

EXT. OUTER SPACE

The planet, with three suns around it, has a writhing, green cover. Monster Mind tendrils extend out into space in all directions.

OON (VO)

They covered the planet, using up
all its minerals and water!

EXT. SPACE TENDRILS

A closer look at one of the tendril "roads" extending in space. Monster Mind vehicles roll across it into distance.

OON (VO)

Then they began to spread throughout
the universe!

WIPE TO:

INT. ELRIC'S SECRET LAB

This is a far smaller, starker version of Elric's previous setup. Minimal light. Shelves and tables covered with plants of various types. Elric carefully slides a piece of root off a plant. Oon watches.

OON (VO)

But in a secret laboratory my
master worked to create a good
plant that would destroy those
evil ones!

ON ELRIC, OON

Elric tells Oon to get him another root from a table near
him. Oon takes it to him. Each holds up his root.
Elric explains something to Oon with intense happiness.

OON (VO)

He finally discovered two roots
which, together, would form that
good plant!

The approaching ROAR of Saw Boss. Elric and Oon look in
shock toward something O.S.

POV - ELRIC - A WALL

The wall CRASHES down as Saw Boss comes thundering
through. Behind him is an army of Monster Mind vehicles.

BACK TO SHOT

Elric and Oon run in separate directions to OS, each
still holding one of the roots. Saw Boss roars INTO
SHOT, saw flailing angrily.

OON (VO)

The leader kept saying, "Get
those roots!" Because they had
brains, they understood the roots
could destroy them!

ON ELRIC

Elric is under a table. Mechasaur's club smashes through
the wall and ceiling. Debris rains down around Elric.
Putting his hand by his mouth, he calls out to OS.

OON (VO)

Elric shouted that he would lure
the Monster Minds toward him, so I
could get away!

ON OON

He's in a demolished part of the lab. A gaping hole in
the wall reveals the countryside. No Monster Minds, but
their O.S. SOUNDS Oon stands rigid but trembling, trying
to blend into some electronic equipment he vaguely
resembles. He holds his lance in one hand, the root in
the other.

OON (VO)

Get the root to Jason, he said!
He's your new master! Serve him
faithfully! He'll know what to
do!

ANGLE - OPENING IN WALL

Oon runs out through the hole. His lance, held vertical,
is longer than the opening. It catches, snapping Oon
back in, onto the rubble. He scrambles up and runs out.

ANGLE - LOOKING OUT

Oon vanishes into the distance, running for his life.
CAMERA PULLS BACK to show us that this has all taken
place in Oon's open visor. Simultaneously the flashback
picture fades to black. Visor CLANGS shut.

ON GROUP

Jason and Flora are trying to absorb what they've just
seen. Gillian takes the root from Oon's neck and turns
to Jason.

ON GILLIAN, JASON - FAVORING GILLIAN

GILLIAN

You must find your father, Jason.
The root he carries must be joined
with this one.

Gillian places the root around Jason's neck.

ON JASON

He holds out the root and looks at it.

JASON

Then the future of the universe
depends on this -- and on me! But
how will I do it?

ON GILLIAN

He starts away.

GILLIAN

Come.

EXT. GARDEN - WOODED GROVE - DAY

We're in a small clearing surrounded by high trees.
Flowers grow everywhere. Shaded except for the multiple
beams of sunlight that break through the trees. Motes

dance in the beams. The feeling is that this is a special, magical place. Gillian enters, followed by Jason, who is a bit puzzled.

ON GILLIAN

Gillian stops by a beautifully faceted rock outcropping, which is at least as high as he is. Its face contains many angles and crevices. He reaches into one of the crevices and removes a ring.

GILLIAN

This ring is like one your father has, Jason.

ON JASON, GILLIAN

Jason reverently takes the offered ring, and puts it on his fin.

CU - RING

It has a beautiful brilliant reflective gem in its center.

JASON

How? Does it have any powers?

ON GILLIAN

He shakes his head.

GILLIAN

More than you can imagine! But only if your heart and purpose are pure.

ON JASON

He's awed. He holds up the ring to see it from all directions. A sudden INTAKE OF BREATH as he reacts to something about the ring.

CLOSER - JASON, RING

The ring has taken on a pulsing glow.

JASON

Gillian -- it's glowing! It's as though its telling me --
(sudden decision)
-- that I will be able to lead us!

DOWN ANGLE - FAVORING JASON

A shaft of sunlight illuminates Jason like a spotlight, as he bounds to the top of the rocky outcropping and looks toward the heavens. The grove seems more magical than ever.

JASON

Wherever you are, father, I will
find you! Nothing will stop me!

ANOTHER ANGLE

To reveal that Oon and Flora, awed, have been watching this from a little distance back. Oon rushes up to stand below Jason, striking an equally noble pose.

ON OON, JASON

OON

And I shall serve my new master
faithfully! Me and my magic
lance!

Jason looks down at Oon.

JASON

Thank you, Oon.

ON FLORA

FLORA

(to herself, wistfully)
If only the lance really was
magic.

ON OON, FLORA, JASON

Oon quickly turns toward Flora, waving the lance wildly.

OON

(defensively, hurt)
I heard that!

FAVORING JASON

JASON

(calming)
Come on, you two. We're all in
this together.

ON FLORA, OON

FLORA
(resigned, with a
dramatic sigh)
Okay, I'm sorry, Oon.

Oon beams out a strong forgiving smile.

EXT. THE WOODS - DAY

The area is a wasteland. The ground is being levelled and ravaged by dozens of Monster Mind machines. (Note: this action has taken them away from Gillian's garden, levelling territory they've already passed through.) Only a small grove of trees remains. Saw Trooper, saw flailing, is everywhere at once, lashing out at the other vehicles.

SAW TROOPER
(in a frenzy)
He has to be in those trees! Drive
him into the open!

CLOSE - SAW TROOPER

He slashes his way through the trees, which fall left and right with great CRASHES. WIDEN TO REVEAL the levelled grove. Saw Trooper grinds to a halt. He swivels around for a better look. He's now facing camera.

SAW TROOPER
Impossible! We lost him!

As we ZOOM IN on Saw Trooper's brain, a CU of Saw Boss in his headquarters appears on the brain. It's as if the picture were projected there with a sharp central focus which becomes fuzzier around the edges, then fades into brain material.

SAW BOSS
Fool! He has to be somewhere!
Scan the area!

SAW TROOPER - ANOTHER ANGLE - WIDER

SAW TROOPER
(afraid)
Yes, Saw Boss! I'm doing it, Saw Boss!

He starts to turn, scanning the area.

INT. SAW BOSS HEADQUARTERS

Saw Boss, on his throne, is gazing intently at his bank of monitors, where we see SAW TROOPER'S POV as he scans the area.

SAW BOSS

Yes...yes...

The monitors have PANNED to the light from the Garden glowing in the distance. STOP PAN as Saw Boss says:

SAW BOSS

Stop! That must be where he is!

ON SAW BOSS

His face is contorted with rage.

SAW BOSS

Get that root! Destroy it... and everything else!!!

WIDE - SAW TROOPER

SAW TROOPER

(insidiously)

With pleasure, Saw Boss!

He ROARS off toward the garden. The other vehicles follow.

EXT. INSIDE GILLIAN'S GARDEN

OPEN on Gillian, Jason and Oon, with Armed force and other vehicles in BG.

GILLIAN

And now, one more thing, Jason.

FAVORING GILLIAN, who turns toward Armed Force and waves his arm magically. His hand sparkles, and there is a TINKLING SOUND. SOUND of Armed Force's MOTOR. The vehicle drives to him and stops. Jason looks on in *astonishment.

GILLIAN

This vehicle, "Armed Force," I made for your father. Learn to use it well. It's yours, now.

ON JASON

JASON

Mine?! Armed Force is mine?!

He reacts with absolute delight. He runs to the vehicle.

ON JASON, ARMED FORCE

Jason leaps aboard the vehicle.

INT. ARMED FORCE - JASON

He looks around in confusion at all the controls and dials. He jerks back a lever. The machine lunges forward snapping his head back, and then stops.

JASON

Don't worry, Armed Force...we'll learn to work together well.

He moves the lever again, more smoothly.

EXT. ARMED FORCE

It ROARS off. Then Oon ENTERS SHOT and runs after the vehicle, practically tripping over himself.

OON

Wait for me, master!

He trips and falls flat.

CLOSER - OON

He starts to sit up. Suddenly the WARPETS run up to him and start brushing against him like friendly cats. The metal-to-metal rubbing produces sparks. Oon leaps to his feet in terror.

OON

Shoo! Get away! Who are you?!!

He starts trying to brush them away with his lance -- futilely. Flora runs to him.

FLORA

They're my Warpets, Oon. And they like you!

OON

If they like me so much, tell them to quit getting in my way!

Suddenly we hear the distant ROAR-GRINDING of the approaching Monster Minds.

CLOSER - OON

This is a familiar, frightening sound.

OON

(terror)

They're coming! The Monster Minds! Master!!!

He races away, falling all over himself.

ON JASON, GILLIAN

Armed Force comes to a skidding stop next to Gillian, and the canopy pops open. Looking at the Monster Mind attack with incredulity and shock, Jason stands up from inside Armed Force (like a tank commander). Gillian stands beside the vehicle, looking in the same direction. The Monster Mind NOISE grows ever LOUDER.

GILLIAN

They're coming for the root, Jason.

CLOSE - JASON

Scared, but trying to hide it.

JASON

They'll never get it! Armed Force
and I will turn them back!

ANOTHER ANGLE

Oon enters, running, followed by Flora. He runs up beside Armed Force and raises his lance high to Jason.

OON

With me at your side!

He turns toward the Monster Minds -- and starts shaking uncontrollably, uttering a great MOAN.

OON'S POV - MONSTER MINDS

Closer than ever, they race toward the Wall of Light. Their NOISE is DEAFENING.

EXT. OUTSIDE GILLIAN'S GARDEN - DAY

WIDE on the Monster Minds approaching the garden. They're just about ready to cross the ravine (their vehicles are longer than the gap) and break through the wall of light.

EXT. INSIDE THE GARDEN - DAY

PANNING with Flora as she runs.

FLORA

(enthusiastic)

Get 'em, Jason! Get 'em!

PAN GAINS on Jason. HOLD PAN as she stops, looking up at Jason.

FLORA

(suddenly uncertain)

We'll win, won't we, Jason?

ON JASON

He's in Armed Force near Gillian.

JASON

(forcing courage)

Of course we'll win!

(to Gillian)

Show me how to work the laser on
this thing!

ON GROUP - FAVORING GILLIAN

He's strangely calm.

GILLIAN

None of the weapons systems are
finished yet, Jason.

JASON

Oh, no....!

Jason and Flora look at him incredulously.

ON OON

OON

(terrified)

Then that means we're finished!

He falls back in a dead faint. SFX: CLANG-CRASH.

ON THE APPROACHING MONSTER MINDS

We're looking past our group, through the light wall.
The Monster Mind SOUND is overwhelming.

FADE OUT

END OF ACT ONE

ACT TWO

FADE IN:

EXT. IN THE GARDEN - DAY

Action continues. The Monster Minds ROAR toward our group.

EXT. OUTSIDE GARDEN - DAY - ON SAW TROOPER

As he charges forward, he spots something. His slit eyes narrow.

SAW TROOPER'S POV

Jason, with the others, behind the Wall of Light. ZOOM IN on the root hanging around Jason's neck.

SAW TROOPER (VO)

The boy has the root! Destroy it!

IN THE GARDEN

As the Monster Minds ROAR toward our group, Jason PLOPS back down into the seat and starts to pull the canopy closed.

JASON

Lasers or no lasers, they're not taking us without a fight!

FEATURING GILLIAN

As he stops Jason from closing the canopy:

GILLIAN

Jason, it's wise never to fight unless it's necessary.

JASON

But...

GILLIAN

Watch!

Gillian looks out toward the Monster Minds. Jason, confused, looks also.

JASON

Huh?

POV GILLIAN - MONSTER MIND ADVANCE

The first Monster Mind (a K.O.Kruiser) ROARS at top speed into the wall of light. The vehicle compresses like an

accordion, as if it had hit solid concrete. A RESOUNDING CRASH. Other vehicles follow in rapid succession, with the same results. Saw Trooper stops, watching.

ON OUR GROUP

Oon's still out cold, but Jason and Flora react with surprised delight, CHEERING, as Gillian stands watching calmly.

EXT. OUTSIDE THE GARDEN - WIDE

Vehicles continue blindly attacking the wall.

ANGLE - SAW TROOPER

He's in the midst of this wreckage, furious.

SAW TROOPER

Pull back! Pull back!

WIPE TO:

INT. GILLIAN'S LABORATORY - DAY

The lab is in the center of the garden. It's ringed with windows, so we can see out past the garden to the Wall of Light, where the Monster Minds are still closer than at close of Act I. All of our group are here, including Oon, who sits on the floor propped up against a wall, still unconscious. The lab is a combination of high-tech (video monitors, electronic assemblies of various kinds), low-tech (hammers, saws, a drill press) and alchemy (bubbling beakers, ancient books).

OPEN ON Jason and Flora looking out the window toward the retreating Monster Minds in the far BG.

FLORA

They're going away!

ON OON

He pops his visor open, then quickly sits up.

OON

(pleased; to himself)

They were afraid of my magic lance!

ON GILLIAN

GILLIAN

Nothing evil can penetrate our wall of light.

The light outside in the garden becomes noticeably dimmer. Gillian looks toward the wall of light.

GILLIAN'S POV - WALL OF LIGHT

Tendrils cover more of it, higher, cutting off more sunlight.

GILLIAN (VO)

But their vines shut out more and more of the sun, making the wall weaker...and soon it will be gone.

ON JASON, GILLIAN

JASON

Gillian, you can build or repair anything -- and you know magic, too.

FAVORING JASON

JASON

We need something to get us safely out of here -- so I can find my father!

Oon strikes a noble pose beside Jason.

OON

So we can find his father!

Jason puts his hand on Oon's shoulder.

ANGLE - VIDEO MONITOR, JASON

Something on the video monitor catches his eye -- a space ship high above them (Pride of the Universe II.) MOVE IN on monitor as Jason points.

JASON

That's what we need! Can you build us a space barge?!

FAVORING GILLIAN

GILLIAN

Not in the brief time before our Wall of Light is gone.

CLOSER - ON GILLIAN

Sudden reaction as he gets an inspiration.

GILLIAN

However...

Gillian looks upward and raises his arm toward space in a magical gesture. His hand sparkles, and there is a TINKLING SOUND.

ON VIDEO MONITOR

The ship shudders and starts moving erratically as one of its engines starts sparking. MOVE IN EVEN CLOSER on monitor and THROUGH TO:

EXT. - PRIDE OF THE UNIVERSE

As it heads erratically down, the engine COUGHING and throwing sparks.

EXT. INSIDE GILLIAN'S GARDEN - DAY

Our group runs in from the lab, looking skyward.

JASON

It'll crash on the wall of light,
Gillian!

ON GILLIAN

Looking up.

GILLIAN

My wall only stops evil, Jason,
not good.

POV GILLIAN - PRIDE OF UNIVERSE

Above them, SPUTTERING and weaving down toward an inevitable crash landing, is the space ship Pride of the Universe II.

ON PRIDE - CLOSER - PANNING

It hits the ground near our group and skids to a stop, throwing up clouds of dust and destroying vegetation.

ON SHIP'S HATCH

Our group runs INTO SHOT as the hatch opens and Herc steps out. He looks back at the ship, upset.

HERC

(irritated)

You just had to break down on me
again, didn't you!

He notices the others.

ON HERC

HERC

Sorry about ploughing up your
tomato patch folks. But don't
expect me to pay for it.

ON GILLIAN

GILLIAN

Of course not.

ON HERC

He holds out his hand, on which rests a small electronic
component.

HERC

Good! I know I'm a goony-bird for
asking. But you wouldn't happen
to have a spare thermal syphon
diode, would you?

ON GILLIAN

He holds out his closed fist, which sparkles, with a
TINKLING SOUND. Then he opens his hand, on which rests a
duplicate of the component.

GILLIAN

Of course.

Herc runs to Gillian and takes the component, looks at
it, then at Gillian, puzzled.

HERC

(puzzled)

Thanks.

(uncomfortable)

Well, see you 'round.

Herc hurries back up the ramp again.

OUTSIDE THE HATCH

Herc is about to enter the ship. Jason runs to him.

JASON

Take us with you!

FAVORING HERC

Herc flexes a loose, rusty plate on the ship's skin. It
comes off in his hands. He glances at it, and casually
tosses it away.

HERC
Sure, kid. That's my business.
Moving anybody and anything.

JASON
(happily)
Thanks!
(to the others)
* Get on board! Gillian, start up
the vehicles!

Jason tries to go past him to enter. Herc puts one hand out to stop him, and holds the other out, palm up.

HERC
First, the money. Herc Lonestar
doesn't haul anybody or anything
for free!

JASON
(outraged)
Money? Where would we get money?!

FAVORING FLORA

She runs to Herc.

FLORA
Haven't you heard about the
Monster Minds?! They're all over!

FAVORING HERC

He turns from Flora to open a panel on the side of the ship, slide out a component, and shake it. It RATTLES as if filled with broken glass. Herc shakes his head and tosses the component to Jason.

HERC
Tell me about it. They grabbed the
planet I was supposed to deliver
this cargo of food and parts to.

ON JASON

He catches the component.

JASON
You have to take us! We can stop
them!

FAVORING HERC

He faces Jason head on.

HERC
Sorry, kid. No cash, no Herc.

He reenters the ship.

ON GILLIAN

GILLIAN
Would gold be acceptable?

ON SHIP'S HATCH

Herc pops out and tosses a brisk, eager salute.

HERC
Herc Lonestar, captain of the
Pride of the Universe, at your
service!

ON GILLIAN

Jason runs to him.

JASON
(baffled; softly)
Gillian, where do we get gold?!!

Raising his eyebrows, Gillian puts his index finger to his mouth. SHHHH.

ANGLE - PRIDE OF UNIVERSE

Herc looks out from the bridge.

HERC
(calling to others)
The only trouble is, that ding-a-
ling of a landing ruined my
control bridge! It's gonna take a
long time to fix it!

ON GILLIAN

Gillian turns toward the Mobile Base Station.

POV - GILLIAN - MOBILE BASE STATION

Half finished, covered with scaffolding.

WIPE TO:

EXT. INSIDE GILLIAN'S GARDEN - DAY

Open on MATCHING SHOT - MOBILE BASE STATION. Finished now, and with no scaffolding, it's rolling into position as the command bridge of Pride of the Universe II.

Gillian is at the control console in the Mobile Base Station guiding it. Jason stands nearby, looking up at the Mobile Base Station.

JASON

Gillian built that Mobile Base Station to go with our five defensive vehicles.

ON GILLIAN

Leaning out the window of the Mobile Base Station.

GILLIAN

(calls down)

Would somebody get me a number 37 digital wrench?

ON HERC

Tools and tool boxes are nearby. Herc selects the proper wrench. Flora ENTERS SHOT, grabs wrench from him.

FLORA

I'll take it to him!

ON FLORA

FLORA

Come on, Brock, let's take a ride!

She leaps aboard Brock. Brock responds happily with SQUEAKS and WHISTLES. TILT UP to follow them as they fly up to the top of the Mobile Base Station and hand Gillian the wrench through the window. They start down again.

ON HERC

Herc watches this in open-mouthed astonishment. He's holding a large panel. He's so surprised he drops the panel. Brock lands by him. Flora runs to the panel.

FLORA

(to Herc)

Watch what you're doing!

ON FLORA

She picks up the panel. A plant is flattened underneath. Flora straightens it.

FLORA

(to plant)

Are you all right?

(listens)

Thank goodness! I was afraid you were hurt.

ON HERC

Herc watches this with even more astonishment.

HERC

That kid is a real goony-bird!

ON FLORA

FLORA

(to Herc, indignant)

I am not! I was created from a
plant by Gillian and Elric! I
understand plants, and animals,
and even people...

(less certain)

...sort of.

ANGLE - RAMP OF MOBILE BASE STATION

The ramp is lowering. Gillian stands at the top.

GILLIAN

(calling)

Excuse me -- but I have your gold
on board.

INT. MOBILE BASE STATION - LOWER LEVEL

Open on CLOSE SHOT of gleaming gold bars stacked high.

GILLIAN (VO)

Is this enough, Mr. Lonestar?

ON GILLIAN

He stands by the gold. Herc and Jason run INTO SHOT and
stop short at what they see.

ON HERC, GOLD

Herc's eyes bug out.

HERC

(impressed)

Call me Herc.

(recovering)

I'll get everybody aboard.

He exits ship.

ON GILLIAN, JASON

JASON

(dumbfounded)

Where did you get that gold?!!

Gillian is adjusting some controls.

GILLIAN
From lead. Before long, it
will change back to lead. I had
to work fast.

WIPE TO:

EXT. PRIDE II - ENTRY RAMP - DAY

*The light is dimmer than before. The five vehicles are lined up, ready to be driven aboard. Jason, in Armed Force, drives it up the ramp, bucking a little.

INT. MOBILE BASE STATION

Gillian is fine-tuning some controls. Jason leaps off Armed force, to start down the ramp again.

ANOTHER ANGLE - FAVORING GILLIAN

Jason stops as Gillian speaks.

*INSERT SECTION

GILLIAN
By the by, Jason -- I fitted your
shirt with a voice-activated
transmitter.

JASON
You did? Why?

FAVORING JASON

As Gillian turns toward him from his work. Jason looks down at his shirt.

GILLIAN
You may thusly control all of our
vehicles from a distance.

JASON
(excited)
Really?!!!

ON JASON

He turns forward the 4 vehicles not yet aboard. They're parked side-by-side in BG.

JASON
Spike Trike!

ON SPIKE TRIKE

As Jason watches in BG, we hear its monotone computer voice.

SPIKE TRIKE
Waiting, Jason.

JASON
(filtered)
Board the barge!

INT. SPIKE TRIKE

The dashboard is a multi-lighted computer console (no monitor). The lights begin blinking OFF and ON in various patterns.

SPIKE TRIKE
Command acknowledged.

The ENGINE ROARS to life.

ON FOUR VEHICLES - FAVORING SPIKE TRIKE

Which rolls out from the line and heads for the barge.

ON JASON

As Spike T rike approaches, Jason beams with amazed delight, looking first at Gillian, then at his shirt.

*END INSERT
*OMIT SECTION

WIPE TO:

EXT. PRIDE II - WIDE - DAY

The engines start up with SPATTERING ROARS. The ship may be ready to go, but it still suffers from all the wheezes, jolts, and uncertainties of its age. It barely rises from the ground, creating swirling clouds of dust, until it comes jerkily down again. A little lower than before, because the engines have blasted away a depression in the ground where the ship comes to rest.

The ship tries to rise again, gets a little higher than before, then falls back into the still deeper depression it created. Once more it starts up, the engines straining, ROARING harder than ever.

INT. PRIDE II - BRIDGE - FAVORING HERC

SHOT VIBRATES and ROCKS as the ship strains to take off. Herc is at the controls, with Oon, Flora, Jason and Gillian anxiously hanging over him. He pulls levers, flips switches, looks at unfamiliar controls.

HERC

(upset)

My old control bridge wasn't so darned complicated!

The ship drops to the ground with a CAMERA SHAKING jolt. Herc switches off the engines. He looks out the window.

EXT. SHIP - WIDE

It's settled into a deeper depression than before.

HERC (VO)

Your ground here is too soft. We're just digging a hole instead of taking off!

INT. BRIDGE - FAVORING JASON

JASON

But the only hard ground is outside the wall of light!

ON GILLIAN

He looks forward, toward the wall of light.

GILLIAN

Which won't protect us much longer. The sun is getting lower and lower...

GILLIAN'S POV - WALL OF LIGHT

The wall is growing dark, because Monster Minds vines are growing up onto it. Behind them we see the Monster Mind vehicles lying in wait, ENGINES GROWLING, with saws, jaws, and wrecking balls reaching out in anticipation.

BACK TO SHOT - ON HERC

HERC

(thinking hard)

Got it!

He presses a button.

EXT. THE SHIP - ANGLE ON REAR SECTION

A hatch on the top surface flips up and a very old, large, rusty cannon emerges, pointing backwards.

HERC (VO)

The recoil from that cannon will
shoot us out onto solid ground!

INT. BRIDGE FAVORING OON

OON

(terrified)

And right into the Monster Minds!

ON HERC

He's flipping switches and setting levers, readying the cannon.

HERC

Don't worry, I'll take 'er up so
fast they'll never touch us!

He punches a button.

EXT. THE SHIP - WIDE

The cannon fires with an EAR-BURSTING BLAST, belching fire and smoke. The ship shoots ahead OUT OF FRAME.

INT. THE BRIDGE

Herc is at the controls, pinned back against his seat. A big smile. The others are knocked backwards off their feet. The landscape shoots by.

EXT. THE SHIP

It shoots through the vine-covered wall of light, tearing a gaping hole in the vines.

EXT. OUTSIDE THE GARDEN

ANGLE on the wall of light as the Pride comes bulleting through at ground level.

ANOTHER ANGLE - MASSED MONSTER MIND VEHICLES

The Spirit's momentum sends it plowing through the vehicles in its way.

ON SPIRIT II

It stops, in the midst of the massed, angry Monster Minds.

INT. THE BRIDGE - HERC, JASON

Jason is excited. He slaps Herc across the back.

JASON

You did it! Okay, Herc, take us up!

FAVORING HERC

He manipulates the controls.

EXT. THE SHIP

It bobs up and down, engines straining, ROARING, but it can't quite lift off.

ANGLE - SAW BOSS

Ship in BG. He's urging his troops to the attack.

SAW BOSS

Get in there! Get that root!

ANGLE - TERROR TANK

Terror Tank charges in. Its mouth bites into the Spirit's skin and tries to pull a section free, like a dog worrying a bone.

ANGLE - GUN GRINNER

At another part of the ship, Gun Grinner flails away at one of the engine pods, trying to wreck it.

INT. PRIDE - THE FIVE VEHICLES - JASON, OON

Jason leaps aboard Armed force.

JASON

Come on, Oon! Somebody has to hold them off!

ON ARMED FORCE

Screwing up his courage, Oon plants his lance in a convenient hole in Armed Force, so it stands up like a flagpole, and reluctantly enters the vehicle, scared to death, saying:

OON

Why us?!

Jason REVS THE ENGINE. Armed Force rolls ahead.

ON RAMP OPENING - WIDE

The ramp swings down as Armed Force heads for it. Outside are masses of Monster Mind vehicles. Armed Force drives out.

EXT. SHIP - REVERSE ANGLE

Armed Force emerges. The ramp CLANGS shut. Armed Force is immediately in the midst of Monster Mind vehicles.

INT. ARMED FORCE

Oon looks around in sheer terror, MOANING and covering his face with his hands. Jason is a little taken aback at what he's got himself into, also.

JASON

(not quite believing it)

It's okay, Oon. We can handle
'em... I think.

They roll ahead. Oon sees something OS that makes him give a sudden CRY OF TERROR. He starts pointing.

OON

(barely able to speak)

M-m-master!

POV OON

A K.O. KRUISER is heading straight for them at fast clip.

BACK TO SHOT - FAVORING JASON

He sees the approaching K.O. Kruiser, and hurries to find the right controls.

JASON

If I can just get the hang of
this...

He starts manipulating a lever like a joy stick.

EXT. VEHICLES - ARMED FORCE, K.O. KRUISER

Armed Force's arm reaches out toward K.O. Kruiser, and almost by accident it picks up the vehicle's brain, detaching it.

ON K.O. KRUISER

Uncontrolled, the vehicle veers off at crazy angles, and finally grinds to a stop.

INT. ARMED FORCE

Jason and Oon are exultant.

OON

Master -- you took off its brain!

INT. PRIDE II - GILLIAN, FLORA

They are looking out at the battle.

GILLIAN

Look, Flora -- without their brains those vehicles are helpless!

EXT. ARMED FORCE - TERROR TANK

Armed Force's arm grabs hold of a Terror Tank's jaw. they wrench back and forth like a monstrous arm-wrestling match.

ANOTHER ANGLE

Jason manages to flip the Terror Tank on its side. Another Monster Mind vehicle is coming at Jason. He makes a sharp turn to avoid it -- and finds himself stalled nose-down in a shallow ravine. The tracks spin futilely.

INT. ARMED FORCE

At an angle pointing down. Oon looks around in all directions, expecting imminent disaster. Jason anxiously REVS the engine. Still stuck!

JASON

(desperate)

Come on, Armed Force, you can do it!

OON

(terrified)

Oh, master, what're we going to do?

ON JASON

*He glances down at his shirt, then toward barge.

* JASON
(commanding)
Okay, vehicles -- Get out here!

*OMIT SECTION

*INSERT SECTION

INT. PRIDE - RAMP AREA

CAMERA FAVORS the four vehicles. Flora is at a porthole looking out.

SPIKE TRIKE
Command acknowledged, Jason.

Flora turns at the voice. The four ENGINES ROAR to life. The ramp flips down. The vehicles start heading out one by one. Drill Sergeant is last.

ANOTHER ANGLE

So that Drill Sergeant is about to move between Flora and CAMERA. Flora glances back out the window at the battle, then back to the vehicle, whose movement then blocks our view of Flora. As vehicle moves out of ship, revealing the porthole again, Flora has vanished.

*END INSERT

INT. ARMED FORCE

Past Jason as he sees Trail Blazer among the Monster Minds. He aims the ring at it. A burst of energy pulses out.

JASON
* Up in the air, Trail Blazer!

Trail Blazer rises high on its extended legs, and moves over a group of Monster Mind vehicles.

JASON
And...down!

ON TRAIL BLAZER

Suddenly Trail Blazer collapses its legs and drops down on the Monster Minds, putting them out of commission.

INT. ARMED FORCE

Oon CLAPS for joy, bouncing up and down in his seat.

OON

Master, we did it! We stopped
them! We stopped them!

JASON

But we're still stuck in this
ditch!

ANGLE - ARMED FORCE

Drill Sergeant heads straight for it at high speed.

INT. ARMED FORCE

Jason's alarmed at the seemingly imminent collision. He holds his ring up toward Drill Sergeant, who nonetheless keeps coming.

JASON

(frantic)

* Armed Force, turn back! Defend
me! What's wrong with that
machine?!!

OON

(trembling)

I knew you couldn't trust those
mechanical things!

ANGLE - ARMED FORCE, DRILL SERGEANT

Drill Sergeant lowers its drill as it closes in on the front of Armed Force, digging up the ground to create a slope so that Armed Force can climb out of the ravine. Then it backs off to allow Jason to climb up via newly-dug shallow slope.

ANOTHER ANGLE

As Jason pulls up beside Drill Sergeant.

INT. ARMED FORCE

*Jason is shocked at who he sees in Drill Sergeant.

JASON

Flora!

ANGLE PAST JASON as he looks out to see that the driver of Drill Sergeant is Flora. She gives him a cute wave and a smile. Jason points angrily toward the barge.

JASON

(angry surprise)

Get back to the ship!

Flora shakes her head.

ON OON, JASON

Jason pops the canopy.

JASON

Oon, take her back before she gets hurt! I have to keep fighting!

OON

M-me, master?!!

JASON

Hurry!

Oon gingerly scrambles out of the cockpit, grabs his lance, and jumps onto Drill Sergeant. His legs slip forward from under him, and he drops to a seated position with a CLANG.

WIDE - PRIDE

Beseiged by Monster Minds vehicles, it finally gets some lift, hovering a few feet off the ground, straining to maintain its height...

INT. PRIDE - BRIDGE - HERC, GILLIAN

Herc tries frantically to get more power to the engines. Gillian, standing, leans over and flips a switch.

GILLIAN

Won't this help us rise?

HERC

(to him, irritated)

Look --

(excited)

Ya hoo! We're going up!

EXT. BARGE'S RAMP

Drill Sergeant, with Oon clinging to it for dear life, climbs up the ramp into the barge. The ramp flips closed.

EXT. PRIDE - WIDER

It loses lift, and drops down again. Then it begins to rise again.

INT. PRIDE - BRIDGE

HERC

We're gonna make it this time!

Oon runs to Herc.

OON

No! Wait! My master is out there!

FAVORING HERC

Struggling to keep the ship aloft.

HERC

(sarcastic)

You want to go get him?

FAVORING OON

A moment of terrible indecision. First he raises his lance high, ready to march, then weakens, then strengthens, then runs to the window.

OON

Yes! I'll save him!

(weakens)

But all the doors are closed.

(determined)

I'll get to him anyway!

(weaker, looking out window)

Jason? Do you really need me?

OON'S POV - THROUGH WINDOW

Armed Force races for the Pride, preceded by the three remaining Lightning League vehicles. Monster Minds vehicles trying to stop them are pushed back with projectiles and lasers, which strike near them.

ANGLE - LIGHTNING LEAGUE VEHICLES

Warding off attacks, reach the Pride. The hatch flips down.

ANGLE - HATCH

The Lightning League vehicles start racing aboard.

ON ARMED FORCE, TRAIL BLAZER

These are the last two, not yet aboard. Jason, in Armed Force, is behind Trail Blazer. He's getting hit hard. He zooms up onto the top of Trail Blazer, as some of the Monster Mind vehicles latch onto the Pride, trying to climb aboard.

ON ARMED FORCE

As Trail Blazer carries his vehicle aboard, Jason zaps down lasers at the Monster Minds, from his high perch. The hatch CLANGS shut.

EXT. PRIDE II

The engines speed up. It starts to lift -- but can only go so far because of the weight of Monster Minds vehicles holding onto it!

INT. PRIDE - BRIDGE - FAVORING HERC

He's pushing the ship for all it's worth.

HERC
(desperate)
They're holding us down!

ON JASON

He runs for the elevator. Up it goes!

EXT. MOBILE BASE STATION - TOP OF TOWER

Jason aims the laser gun down at the clinging Monster Minds vehicles. (He holds the gun free from its mounting, if possible).

WIDER ANGLE - INCLUDE MONSTER MIND VEHICLES

Jason manages to nick a couple of vehicles, but their return fire is massive.

INT. PRIDE II - GILLIAN

Gillian is thinking hard, eyes closed.

GILLIAN
Jason! The ring! The ring!...

EXT. MBS - ON JASON

Monster Minds lasers and projectiles blast Jason's laser gun from his hands. It looks bad. Exposed and unharmed. He instinctively puts his arm across his face to protect it. A laser beam bounces off his ring, back to a Monster Minds vehicle, disabling it!

CLOSER - JASON

He realizes what's happened. He looks at the ring. It's glowing.

JASON
The ring!

He uses the ring to deflect lasers back.

INTERCUT VARIOUS ANGLES - JASON, MONSTER MIND VEHICLES

Jason reflects lasers and projectiles back to the Monster Minds vehicles, knocking them free of the ship one by one. The ship begins to rise, slowly, and then faster.

INT. SAW BOSS HEADQUARTERS

With anger and frustration, Saw Boss watches the above scene on his monitors. He hurls himself up from his throne.

SAW BOSS

Incompetent fools! At least hold them until I get there!

He visibly stiffens, his brain glowing and pulsating at an increasing rate. CAMERA PULLS BACK AND UP at an increasing rate. We see the other four Monster Minds (plant version) standing around and below Saw Boss. CAMERA PULLS BACK through the wall of dark light, until we see full EXT. SHOT of Monster Mind headquarters. Headquarters shrinks down to a pinpoint of light, which WHOOSHES UP and out into the cosmos, disappearing into infinity.

EXT. HILL NEAR BARGE - OUTSIDE GILLIAN'S GARDEN

In BG we see the Barge, rising still higher as it loses the last of the Monster Mind vehicles. Pinpoint of light from previous scene WHOOSHES IN from infinity, hits the top of the hill, and reverses process seen above. The Monster Mind headquarters appears.

INT. MONSTER MIND HEADQUARTERS

OPEN ON Saw Boss as we last saw him standing before his throne. The platform he stands on descends. It is an elevator. CAMERA FOLLOWS him down to ground level.

WIDER ANGLE

Saw Boss heads for the Wall of Dark Light, followed by his four other Monster Minds (all in plant form).

ANGLE - WALL

Saw Boss starts to pass through light. Transformation to vehicle-form begins, as seen and HEARD during flashback sequence.

EXT. WALL

Transformation is completed as Saw Boss emerges and becomes fully a vehicle. Behind him are the other Monster Minds. Ditto.

ANGLE - SAW BOSS

Looking past him to barge in distance. Barge is slowly gaining altitude.

SAW BOSS
(growls in angry
frustration)
Too late! Too late!

EXT. PRIDE - WIDE

As it rises, the last clinging Monster Minds vehicles crash to the ground below. With sudden acceleration, the Pride ROARS off into the distance, as Jason heads inside.

ON SAW BOSS - CLOSE

He looks up at the departing barge.

SAW BOSS
I'll find you, Son of Elric! I'll
destroy that root -- and you!

LONG UP SHOT

From base of hill, up toward Saw Boss, who is in near silhouette against the background of his headquarters.

SAW BOSS
You'll never be safe! Not you,
not your father! I'll track you
through the universe forever!!!

EXT. SOMEWHERE IN SPACE

The Pride moves smoothly along.

INT. PRIDE - BRIDGE

Herc is at the controls, surrounded by Oon, Jason, Flora and Gillian.

HERC
Don't thank me, folks. All in a
day's work.

He flips a few switches to put the ship on automatic, and rises.

FAVORING HERC

He starts for the rear.

HERC

Now I'd kinda like to admire my gold.

Jason looks questioningly at Gillian. The old man simply shrugs as Jason follows Herc.

REAR AREA - GOLD BARS

Herc ENTERS SHOT to look admiringly at the gold, followed by Jason and Gillian. He picks up one of the bars.

HERC

Isn't that the prettiest sight in the universe?

As he speaks, all the gold changes back to lead. Jason rolls his eyes heavenward.

ON HERC

He stares at the bar he holds, first in astonishment, then in outrage.

HERC

(furious)

What's going on?!! This is lead!!

ON GILLIAN, HERC, JASON

GILLIAN

Sorry. I had a little problem. But don't worry -- you'll be paid.

JASON

That's a promise, Herc.

FAVORING HERC

HERC

You're darned right! Because I'm sticking with you from now on until I get my loot!

Herc angrily heads back to the bridge.

ON HERC

He calls back to Jason.

HERC

You're not shaking me for one second!

ON JASON

ANGLE looking outside a porthole toward the starry heavens. Jason looks out, joined by Oon, Gillian and Flora.

JASON

We'll find you, father! Wherever
you are!

Space lightning CRACKLES through the heavens.

JASON

Because like that space lightning
-- we're unstoppable!

ON OUR GROUP

JASON

We're the Lightning League!!

EXT. THE PRIDE

It zooms off into infinity.

JASON (VO)

And together we'll destroy these
Monster Minds forever!

FADE OUT

THE END